

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

April 7, 2004

OFFICE OF SOLID WASTE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE

OSWER Directive 9285.6-12A

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Superfund Sediment Resource Center

FROM: Michael B. Cook, Director /s/

Office of Superfund Remediation and Technology Innovation

TO: Superfund National Policy Managers, Regions 1 - 10

PURPOSE

This memorandum announces creation of the Superfund Sediment Resource Center (SSRC) to assist EPA project managers with site-specific technical issues related to the assessment and management of risks at contaminated sediment sites. The focus of the SSRC will be on providing review and comment on topics related to site characterization such as data collection, data evaluation, and sediment stability; modeling (e.g., hydrodynamic, contaminant fate and transport, and food chain); ecological and human health risks; and the efficacy of remedies such as capping, dredging, monitored natural recovery (MNR), and treatment technologies.

The SSRC is designed to provide timely reviews of draft technical work products prepared by EPA, Responsible Parties, States, and Federal Facilities. It provides EPA another opportunity to continue our commitment to improve our remedy decision making at contaminated sediment sites.

Enclosed is a 2-page fact sheet further describing the SSRC.

BACKGROUND

EPA Remedial Project Managers (RPMs) often rely on contractor support to provide technical assistance in developing or in reviewing documents and deliverables as part of the site cleanup process. During recent EPA meetings related to contaminated sediment sites, RPMs have expressed a need for additional expertise on some highly technical issues for these sites. The SSRC is intended to provide access to experts within and outside the Federal government to meet this need.

IMPLEMENTATION

The SSRC will be administered by the Office of Superfund Remediation and Technology Innovation (OSRTI). To operate and assist with the SSRC, OSRTI is providing extramural funds to a support contractor and to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Environmental Laboratory. Additionally, the SSRC will coordinate with existing EPA programs (Office of Research and Development's Technical Support Centers), other federal agencies (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration), and other organizations (Hazardous Substance Research Center/South&Southwest) to provide the necessary expertise. The SSRC is not intended to replace the assistance that is currently being provided by these organizations, but rather provide easy access to additional resources for site specific sediment assistance.

RPMs can access the SSRC via e-mail at **sedimentsolutions@ttemi.com** or by telephone at **703-390-0698**. Consisting of a core staff from OSRTI supported by extramural and in-house scientists and engineers, the SSRC will work with the requesting RPM to access the appropriate expert(s). The SSRC level of effort for most requests is expected to be approximately 40 hours with a turn-around time of less than 30 days.

When accessing the SSRC, a complete and clear description of the request should be provided, including mention of the cleanup program under which the site is being addressed. At this time, site-specific requests will only be accepted from federal project managers working on Superfund sites. As funding and time permit, the SSRC will also provide support to other federal cleanup programs. State project managers will need to work through their federal counterparts to determine if assistance is available through the SSRC.

For additional information about the SSRC, please contact: Kelly Madalinski (703-603-9901, madalinski.kelly@epa.gov), Steve Ells (703-603-8833, ells.steve@epa.gov), Leah Evison (703-603-9022, evison.leah@epa.gov), or Ellen Rubin (703-603-0141, rubin.ellen@epa.gov).

Enclosure

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